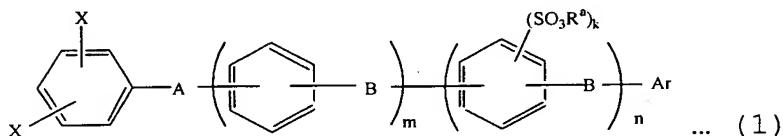


## ABSTRACT

Disclosed is an aromatic sulfonic acid ester derivative represented by the formula (1);



5 in the formula, X is an atom or a group selected from a halogen atom excluding fluorine,  $-\text{OSO}_3\text{CH}_3$  and  $-\text{OSO}_3\text{CF}_3$ , A is a divalent electron attractive group, B is a divalent electron donating group or a direct bonding,  $\text{R}^a$  is a hydrocarbon group of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, Ar is an 10 aromatic group having a substituent of  $-\text{SO}_3\text{R}^b$  (wherein  $\text{R}^b$  is a hydrocarbon group of 1 to 20 carbon atoms), m is an integer of 0 to 10, n is an integer of 0 to 10 and k is an integer of 1 to 4. Also disclosed is a process for producing a polyarylene having a sulfonic acid group, 15 which process comprises the steps of coupling polymerization of an aromatic compound containing the derivative of the formula (1), to prepare a polyarylene and hydrolysis of the polyarylene, and which process has high safety and is easily capable of controlling the 20 amount of sulfonoc acid group introduced into a polymer and the introducing position thereof.